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## MISCELLANY.

### THE AMERICAN SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

The American Social Science Association began its twenty-eighth annual meeting at Saratoga Springs, Monday evening, August 29, 1892. The following was the program for the meeting :

#### MONDAY, AUGUST 29.

8 P. M. The Opening Address by the President, H. L. WAYLAND, D. D., of Philadelphia, on *Has the State Abdicated*.

9 P. M. A Paper on *Mental and Moral Contagions*, by Rev. J. M. BUCKLEY, D. D., of New York.

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 30.

##### *Department of Education.*

9.30 A. M. Remarks by the Chairman, MERRILL E. GATES, LL. D., President of Amherst College.

10 A. M. Report of the Secretary, Dr. LOUISE FISKE BRYSON, of New York, on *Education as a Therapeutic Measure*.

11 A. M. A Paper by Miss C. M. HEWINS, of the Hartford Library, Connecticut, on *Public Libraries as a Factor in Education*.

11.30 A. M. A Paper on the *Educational Value of Modern Economics*, by STARR HOYT NICHOLS, Esq., of New York.

12 M. A Paper on *Art Education in American Life*, by MYRA B. MARTIN, of New York.

8 P. M. The Annual Election of Officers. [The officers of the past year were, in the main, re-elected.]

8.30 P. M. Report of Secretary F. B. SANBORN, on *Progress of Social Science in XIX. Century*.

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31.

##### *Department of Health.*

9 A. M. Remarks by the Chairman of the Department, FREDERICK PETERSON, M. D., of New York.

9.30 A. M. A Report by the Secretary of the Department, W. D. GRANGER, M. D., on the *Work of the Health Department since its Organization*.

10 A. M. A Paper by MATTHEW D. FIELD, M. D., of New York, on *The Examination and Commitment of the Public Insane in New York City*.

10.30 A. M. A Paper by RALPH L. PARSONS, M. D., of Sing Sing, N. Y., on *Voluntary Commitment of the Insane to Asylums*.

11 A. M. Discussion of the preceding Papers.

12 M. A Paper by HENRY LING TAYLOR, M. D., of New York, on *American Children Hygienically Considered*, followed by debate.

8 P. M. An Address by W. W. KEEN, M. D., of Philadelphia, on *The Modern Surgery of the Brain*.

9 P. M. A Paper by FREDERICK PETERSON, M. D., of New York, on *The Old and the New Phrenology*.

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

##### *Department of Jurisprudence.*

10 A. M. Remarks by the Chairman of the Department, Prof. FRANCIS WAYLAND, of New Haven, Conn.

A Paper on *The Ethics of Law*, by Hon. JOHN F. DILLON.

10.30 A. M. A Paper on *The Great Coal Combination*, by C. LA RUE MUNSON, Esq., of Williamsport, Pa.

12 M. A Paper on *Municipal Government*, by ALBERT SHAW, Ph. D., of New York.

12.30 P. M. A Paper on *County Jails as Reformatory Institutions*, by EDWARD B. MERRILL, Esq., of New York.

8 P. M. A Paper on *Crime and Penalty in the United States*, by Hon. ANDREW DICKSON WHITE, LL. D., of Ithaca, N. Y., read by Professor Wayland.

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2.

##### *Department of Social Economy.*

9.30 A. M. Address by the Chairman of the Department, F. B. SANBORN, of Concord.

10 A. M. Report by the Secretary of the Department, on *The Sweating System*, by JOSEPH LEE, Esq., of Brookline, Mass.

11 A. M. A Paper on *The Sweating System in Massachusetts*, by H. G. WADLIN, Esq., Labor Commissioner of Massachusetts.

11.30 A. M. A Paper on *Conditions Observed by a Dispensary Physician in New York in Regard to the Sweating System*, by ANNIE S. DANIEL, M. D., of New York.

12 M. A Paper on *The Actual State of Tenements in Boston where Work is Carried on*, by WILLIAM F. HICKS, Esq., of the Boston Board of Health.

12.30 P. M. Discussion of the subject.

4 P. M. Papers on *The Sweating System in Europe*, by Rev. JOHN GRAHAM BROOKS, of Brockton, Mass., and on *Remedial Measures proposed in England by the House of Lords Commission with their Results*, by Mr. DAVID F. SCHLOSS.

4.30 P. M. General Debate on the Sweating System in America and Europe.

8 P. M. An Address on *Architecture in Relation to Life*, by Mr. BARR FERRER, of New York.

(All of the above papers were read, except the opening address, by Professor Gates, on Tuesday morning, and the address by Professor Wayland on Thursday morning.)

The attendance was large on the opening evening, and was well sustained throughout; and weighed heavily in point of intelligence and influence. The opening address by the President, H. L. Wayland, was upon the subject "Has the State Abdicated?" The address adduced several of the evils under which individuals and the community suffer, and urged the duty of the State to do for individuals what they cannot possibly do for themselves. Some objections were considered, as that this is Paternalism and Socialism, and that it is interfering with the right of property. The speaker also hoped that the time would come when the Commonwealth of Nations would exercise supervision over the relations and actions of the several nations to each other.

Next following was an address by J. M. Buckley, D.D., editor of the *Christian Advocate*, upon "Mental and Moral Contagions."

The next morning was devoted to the Department of Education. Louise Fiske Bryson, M.D., of New York, read a paper on "Education in the Treatment of Nervous Girls." Her suggestions were applicable to the education of all girls, since they are all more or less disposed to an excess of nerves. Dr. Bryson takes the view that, while nervous diseases are increasing, insanity is not increasing. This view, which is opposed to the general belief, was later controverted by Mr. Sanborn.

Miss Hewins, of the Hartford Library (Conn.), read a paper on "Public Libraries as a Factor in Education," showing how a library wisely selected and skilfully managed may awaken a thirst for reading. Her view was corroborated by President G. W. Smith, LL. D., of Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., who gave facts showing how readers are educated *up*, and how persons who begin with rather sensational books may sometimes tire of them and want something better. Miss Hewins also showed how the love for history is increased by pictures, photographs and objects of historical interest.

Perhaps the most attractive paper of the morning was on "Art Education in American Life," by Miss Martin, New York. In reply to questions, Miss Martin said that the introduction of art study into the common schools would not interfere with other branches of study, but would rather make all branches more attractive, and, practically, more easy.

Wednesday morning was given to Health. A most gratifying exhibit was made by Dr. Field, of "The Care of the Public Insane in New York City." It was a gratifying surprise to know that in the metropolis which we associate with the extreme of misgovernment, one department seems to have escaped the wide-spreading contagion.

In the discussion which sprang up Mr. Sanborn said that, as the result of many years' knowledge of this subject, he was satisfied that the number of insane is increasing. It is often thought that the apparent increase is owing to the fact that a different standard of insanity is applied, and what is not regarded as insanity at one time is at another. But in the State of Massachusetts, during ten years, with no change in the standard, insanity increased far beyond the increase in population. Contrary to the general impression, the cases of insanity were not chiefly furnished by the wives and daughters of farmers, but rather the largest amount of insanity was found among the young women descended from immigrants, in the first or second generation, working in mills and factories. In the evening Dr. Keen gave a lecture upon "Modern Surgery of the Brain." He exhibited the manner in which the brain functions are located, showing how the brain has been mapped out, and how the seat of impulse going to various parts of the body has been fixed, and how we are able to trace the exact sources of disorders of the brain, and to operate, frequently to the great relief of the patient, and sometimes to his entire recovery.

Thursday was Jurisprudence day. Judge Dillon read a very able paper upon "The Ethics of Law," and was followed by Mr. C. La Rue Munson upon the "Reading Lease." The speaker championed the "combine" as beneficial to the road, to the mine-owners, to the miners and to the consumer. A plain man who was present offered some remarks. If he had, however, had at hand the text of the decision of the Chancellor of New Jersey in the matter of the Reading leases, there would have been little occasion to add a word.

A very interesting paper was by Mr. Edward B. Merrill on "County Jails as Reformatory Institutions." The title was perhaps misleading, for he showed that "reformatory" is just what they are *not*. The statements which he made as to the criminal mismanagement of the county jails were appalling. They are largely under the conduct of ignorance and selfishness; very often they are made the sport of the politician; persons are appointed to the care of the jails simply because they or their friends have been active workers in the ward or county. The jails and prisons should be totally separated from politics; the young offender should be scrupulously separated from the hardened criminal; there should be employment for all; and in each State all penal institutions should be under one central

authority; the jails in a group of counties should be consolidated into one, lessening of expense, and allowing of reformatory methods which cannot be carried out in the county jail.

The most memorable feature of the day was a paper in the evening on "The Murder Problem in the United States," by Hon. Andrew D. White, LL. D. (now Minister to Russia), read in his absence by Prof. Wayland. From a report on crime made to the Census Bureau, by Dr. Wines, it appears that the murders in the United States during the past year numbered 7386; this is more than double the number, in proportion to the population, reported in the most criminal countries of Europe, including Southern Italy and Corsica. The number of murders is increasing out of proportion to the increase of population. Only one of about fifty murderers is punished.

Dr. White, however, thought this enumeration of murders too small. The impunity of murderers and the consequent increase of murders is largely the result of false sympathy, of the absence of righteous indignation against crime. Various provisions of law, which were necessary to protect the innocent in the Middle Ages, have now become safeguards to criminals, and make legal proceedings a game, with the chances all in favor of the criminal. When a man is convicted of murder, on the clearest evidence, after a most patient trial, and when every legal expedient has been exhausted, and the gallows is in sight, there is a morbid feeling which leads citizens, often clergymen, to appeal to the governor for pardon or commutation. These efforts are too often successful.

Another cause of the prevalence of murder is the criminal education of children through newspapers and sensational books. In a school in Michigan, a ten-year-old pupil, whom the teacher was correcting, drew a pistol; it appeared that thirteen of the children owned pistols, and that three were constantly armed. In many of the jails and prisons, young culprits are associated with hardened criminals.

This impunity of criminals leads to lynching. During the last year, there were 195 cases of lynching, an increase of sixty-eight over the previous year.

Among the remedies suggested are instruction in righteousness in our schools and churches, a healthy public sentiment, the suppression of books and newspapers which incite to crime, and of resorts known to contribute to criminality. The law should provide for the permanent confinement of habitual criminals, and for intermediate sentences for younger criminals. There should be a restraint upon the pardoning power; trials should be made speedy and effective.

In a large section of the country, white men are very rarely punished. Within a radius of two miles from a little town in Tennessee

over twenty murders took place within three years by white men, and not one of the murderers was punished. The effect of punishment is seen in the history of the Mollie Maguire murders in the coal regions. In the time of Governor Dix and Governor Cornell, of New York, pardons were refused, and murders were very sensibly diminished.

In conclusion, Dr. White says, in substance : There are doomed to death in the United States, during the year which begins this day, over 7000 people, who will have no opportunity to take leave of those they love, or to make provision for those dependent on them. These 7000 persons, guilty of no crime, will be put to death without regard to the life-long agony and perhaps destitution of their families. Two-thirds of these murders will be due to the maudlin sentiment of the community (miscalled mercy and sympathy) and to the encouragement given to murder by judges, juries, governors, and legislators. When people oppose severity in dealing with crime, let them think of the cruelty of the prevailing system, and of the thousands whom every year it dooms to death.

Friday morning and afternoon were given to various aspects of the "Sweating System" in this country and in Europe. Somewhat to my surprise, the testimony was to the effect that the profits of the employer are less than is usually supposed. It was also said that the danger of contagion from clothing made in unwholesome surroundings is not serious, but the poverty and sufferings of those who do this work are most distressing. Annie S. Daniel, M. D., a dispensary physician in New York, gave some alarming figures as to the crowded condition of the houses (more often of the rooms) devoted to this industry.

The Social Science Association is not a large or pretentious body ; it has no political influence, and yet it has been the means of achieving great changes and great reforms. Many an idea which has now become accepted and dominant first saw the light in its meetings. Nor is there any reason to suppose that its sphere of influence is lessened. I sincerely wish that there were ten times as many members, and that its meetings were ten times more largely attended.

The chief drawback to the success of the meeting this year was that so many of the speakers were inaudible ; this was the fault partly of the hall and partly of the speakers, who, from want of practice or from lack of voice, largely failed to make themselves heard. A new building is going up in Saratoga intended for conventions, with small rooms adapted to just such meetings as this.

H. L. WAYLAND.

*Philadelphia*

## AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION.

On the twenty-third of August, the American Economic Association held its fifth annual session at Chautauqua, New York. The attendance was not perhaps so large as at some former meetings, but it was equally representative. The program which was carried out was varied and attractive, and the discussions were of great suggestive value.

An excellent feature of the meeting was the fact that the program for each session turned upon some one question or some one branch of economic investigation. This result was accomplished by placing the conduct of the meetings in the hands of the respective standing committees.

The program in detail was as follows :

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 23. EVENING SESSION. 8 P. M.

1. Address of Welcome by an officer of the Chautauqua Association.
2. Response and Annual Address, by Professor WILLIAM W. FOLWELL, Second Vice-President of the American Economic Association.

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24. MORNING SESSION. 10 A. M.

In charge of the Committee on Public Finance.

1. Paper on *Taxation of Personal Property and the Farmer*, by President S. M. DICK.
2. Paper on *A New Canon of Taxation*, by Professor E. A. ROSS.
3. Paper on *The Municipal Ownership of Water Works*, by M. N. BAKER, Esq.
4. Paper on *Theory of Progressive Taxation*, by Professor EDWIN R. A. SELIGMAN.

## EVENING SESSION. 8 P. M.

1. Paper on *The Farmers' Movement in the Southern States*, by President J. F. CROWELL.
2. Paper on *The Discontent of the Farmer*, by Professor E. W. BEMIS.
3. Paper on *The Farmers' Movement in the Northern States*, by Professor C. S. WALKER.

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 25. MORNING SESSION. 10 A. M.

In charge of the Committee on Economic Theory.

1. Address on *The Interpretation of Ricardo*, by Professor S. N. PATTEN.
2. Address on *The Ultimate Standard of Value*, by Professor J. B. CLARK.
3. Address on *Value*, by Professor F. H. GIDDINGS.

## AFTERNOON SESSION. 4 P. M.

1. Address on *Value and Distribution as Treated by Professor Marshall*, by Professor F. W. TAUSSIG.



2. Paper on *Diminishing Returns and Distribution*, by Professor J. R. COMMONS.

3. Paper in abstract, on *The Cincinnati Southern Railway; a Study in Municipal Activity*, by Mr. J. H. HOLLANDER.

4. Paper on *The Laborers' Place in the Industrial System, Economically and Ethically Considered*, by Professor C. A. TUTTLE.

#### EVENING SESSION. 8 P. M.

In charge of the Committee on Statistics.

1. Address by the Chairman of the Committee, Hon. CARROLL D. WRIGHT.

2. Address on *The Measurement of Price Movements*, by Professor R. P. FALKNER.

3. Paper on *Statistics of Private Indebtedness*, by G. K. HOLMES, Esq.

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 26. MORNING SESSION. 10 A. M.

1. Paper on *The Endowment Craze in Massachusetts*, by FRANK P. BENNETT, Esq.

2. Paper on *Archilectural Problems in Great Cities*, by BARR FERREE, Esq.

3. Paper on *Public versus Private Initiative in Southeastern Europe*, by Dr. ALBERT SHAW.

The program was carried out as given, with the exception of the papers by Mr. Baker, President Crowell, Professor Tuttle, and Dr. Shaw, and the address of Mr. Wright.

The meeting was presided over by Professor W. W. Folwell, of the University of Minnesota. In his opening address Professor Folwell dwelt upon the broader sympathies which have found their way into economic discussion of the present day as compared with former periods. There has been, as he showed, a more generous recognition of the part which organized society plays in our industrial system. He urged that additional emphasis be placed upon this fact, and suggested that courses of instruction might profitably be devised in what he termed "public economy," which should be a description of the various activities of the State and their relation to social, financial and economic questions. He dwelt upon the growth of economic study into the facts, and hoped that theory would reap a decided profit from the increased scope and accuracy of statistical investigation.

The first business session of the association was devoted to the subject of taxation. President Dick, of Missouri Wesleyan College, in his paper on "Taxation of Personal Property," argued for a repeal of personal property taxes on the ground that a more equitable distribution of tax burdens between city and country districts would

be brought about by the taxation of land alone. The paper of Professor Ross, "A New Canon of Taxation," was more general in its scope. It was an examination into the results of taxation which are at the same time productive and prohibitive; he showed that every tax carries with it a tendency to suppress the object of taxation. Having thoroughly in view the workings of this law, any tax should be judged by the sum total of its productive and its prohibitive effects. The paper on "Progressive Taxation," by Professor Seligman, discussed the limits within which the principle of progression was applicable to taxes, with special reference to American conditions.

The evening session was devoted to discontent of the farming population, and a paper which gave rise to a very interesting discussion was read by Professor C. S. Walker, from Amherst, Mass., on "The Farmers' Movement in the Northern States." Unfortunately Professor Bemis was unable to read his paper on the "Discontent of the Farmer" at this session. It was given a place during another meeting, but the time allotted to it was necessarily brief.

The following day was devoted in the main to economic theory, and papers were read by Professor Commons, of Indiana University, on distribution, and addresses were made by Professor Taussig upon Marshall's views of value; Professor Patten upon the interpretation of Ricardo, by Professor Clark and Professor Giddings on value. These addresses cannot be summarized here, because of their theoretical character; but the list of names is a guarantee of the excellence of the discussions which took place and the fruitfulness of the suggestions which were made.

In the evening session of the same day Mr. G. K. Holmes explained the mortgage statistics which had been collected by the government in connection with the eleventh census. Professor Falkner, in his address upon the measurement of price movements, gave an account of the statistical work conducted by the Senate Committee on Finance.

The closing session was devoted to an account by Mr. F. P. Bennett, of Boston, of the "Endowment Associations of Massachusetts." He gave an extremely interesting and instructive account of the growth of these institutions and of the methods which have been employed to delude the public for the purpose of securing members. Mr. Bennett has been an active champion of the movement to suppress these institutions in Massachusetts, and from his own personal experience was able to present a most instructive picture of human credulity and cupidity, as it was exemplified in the history of these organizations. Mr. Barr Ferree closed with a paper upon "Architectural Problems of Great Cities."

Several meetings of the council were held during the sessions. The most important business which came before them was the election of officers. President F. A. Walker, who had since the foundation of the organization been its honored president, was relieved from the duties of that office in accordance with his oft expressed wish, which the association has granted only with reluctance. Ever since the association was organized in 1885, Prof. Richard T. Ely has been its secretary. The success of the association has been due, in large measure, to Prof. Ely's unremitting energy in its behalf. He declined re-election, as he felt that he could not, at his new post in Madison, care for the association's interests so effectively as at Baltimore. The following officers were elected : President, Professor Charles F. Dunbar, Harvard University ; First Vice-President, Professor Richard T. Ely, University of Wisconsin ; Second Vice-President, Professor Henry W. Farnam, Yale University ; Third Vice-President, Professor Simon N. Patten, University of Pennsylvania ; Secretary, Professor Edward A. Ross, Cornell University ; Treasurer, Mr. Frederick B. Hawley, New York.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the council : Professor J. H. Gray, Evanston ; Dr. J. Q. Adams, Philadelphia ; Professor W. A. Scott, Madison ; Professor J. W. Black, Oberlin ; Professor L. M. Keasbey, Boulder, Colo. ; Professor E. A. Ross, Ithaca ; Prof. W. F. Willcox, Ithaca, and Prof. Sidney Sherwood, Baltimore.

In addition to the gentlemen who took part in the program, the following members were present at the meeting :—Professor Richard T. Ely, University of Wisconsin ; Professor Henry W. Farnam, Yale University ; Professor Geo. W. Knight, University of Ohio ; Professors R. D. Sheppard and John H. Gray, of Northwestern University ; Professor Lester F. Ward, Washington ; President Scovil, Wooster University ; Hon. Jos. D. Weeks, Pittsburgh ; Professor Chas. H. Haskins, University of Wisconsin ; Professor Lindley M. Keasbey, University of Colorado ; Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden, Columbus, O. ; Dr. John C. Schwab, Yale University ; Dr. John Q. Adams, University of Pennsylvania ; Professor W. A. Scott, University of Wisconsin ; Professor J. W. Black, Oberlin College ; Mr. Isodor Loeb, University of Missouri, and Mr. D. I. Green, Baltimore.

Before adjourning, the council decided that the next meeting be held in Chicago, in 1893, as nearly as possible at the date chosen by the International Statistical Institute.

R. P. FALKNER.

*University of Pennsylvania.*